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DS&E NEWS RELEASE

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Technical Demand Still Declining

The HIGH TECHNOLOGY RECRUITMENT INDEX continued downward in July to 105, a two-year low. The drop occurred in spite of preliminary indications that an end to the current year-long decline might be imminent.

Further losses may be in store. The single-month figure for August, 100 (the base-year norm), reflects a 10-point decrease from the prior month. It is difficult to project when, and from what level, an upturn will begin.

"The country is in a heavy defense expenditure mode," observes a DS&E research analyst, "which characteristically is accompanied by a high level of technical hiring. However, the present administration's emphasis on military spending has twice -- in 1982-83 and currently -- been unable to offset the losses in technical demand in unrelated industries. When technical hiring accelerates in the nonmilitary sector, HTRI will start on an upward trend."

(MORE)

The HTRI is based on the volume of recruitment advertising directed to degreed engineers and scientists in key U.S. newspapers and technical journals each month. Deutsch, Shea and Evans, which has maintained the Index since 1960, is the human resources consulting and advertising subsidiary of Foote, Cone & Belding Communications, Inc.

HIGH TECHNOLOGY RECRUITMENT INDEX

(1961=100; Seasonally Adjusted)

Month	Single-Month Figure	High Technology Recruitment Index*
August, 1984	129	133
September	131	130
October	131	128
November	121	123
December	120	125
January, 1985	135	126
February	123	127
March	122	122
April	121	118
May	109	112
June	105	108
July	110	105
August	100	--

*Based on a 3-month running average

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